

PARTY AFFILIATION, MAY VOTE FOR THE CANDIDATES FOR THE BOARD IN THE GENERAL ELECTION. THE CANDIDATES, EQUAL TO THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS TO BE ELECTED TO THE BOARD, WHO RECEIVE THE LARGEST NUMBER OF VOTES AT THE GENERAL ELECTION SHALL BE DECLARED ELECTED FOR THE RESPECTIVE BOARD OF EDUCATION OFFICES. ALL VOTING FOR THE CANDIDATES FOR THE BOARD SHALL BE CONDUCTED ON A NONPARTISAN BASIS [[AND ON A GENERAL COUNTYWIDE TICKET]]. A DESIGNATION OF PARTY AFFILIATION MAY NOT BE PLACED UPON ANY PETITION FOR NOMINATION, NOR UPON ANY VOTING MACHINE OR PAPER BALLOT USED AT THE ELECTION.

(C) (1) AT THEIR FIRST MEETING AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH YEAR, THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD SHALL ELECT ONE OF THEIR MEMBERS TO SERVE AS CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD FOR THE YEAR.

(2) EACH MEMBER OF THE GARRETT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL RECEIVE AN ANNUAL COMPENSATION AS SET FORTH IN THE ANNUAL GARRETT COUNTY BUDGET, PROVIDED THAT THE ANNUAL COMPENSATION FOR EACH MEMBER SHALL BE NOT LESS THAN \$840. AFTER SUBMITTING VOUCHERS, BOARD MEMBERS SHALL BE PAID FOR ALL NECESSARY AND ACTUAL TRAVEL AND OTHER EXPENSES INCIDENT TO THEIR DUTIES.

(D) THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF GARRETT COUNTY SHALL PERFORM THE FUNCTIONS OF COUNTY BOARDS OF EDUCATION AS PROVIDED BY STATE LAW AND SHALL HAVE THE POWER TO ADOPT BYLAWS FOR REGULATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF SCHOOLS WITHIN THE COUNTY NOT INCONSISTENT WITH STATE LAW. HOWEVER, ALL ACTION SHALL BE ACCOMPLISHED AFTER A PUBLIC MEETING, THE FORMAL RECORD OF WHICH SHALL LIKEWISE BE PUBLIC. THIS SECTION MAY NOT BE DEEMED TO DENY THE POWER OF THE BOARD TO MEET AND DELIBERATE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE REQUIRED BY LAW.. [[HOWEVER, ALL ACTION SHALL BE ACCOMPLISHED AFTER A PUBLIC MEETING, THE FORMAL RECORD OF WHICH SHALL LIKEWISE BE PUBLIC.]]

(E) THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MAY REMOVE ANY MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTED OR SERVING UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION FOR IMMORALITY, MISCONDUCT IN OFFICE, INCOMPETENCY, OR WILFUL NEGLECT OF DUTY, GIVING TO HIM A COPY OF THE CHARGES AGAINST HIM, AND AN OPPORTUNITY OF BEING PUBLICLY HEARD IN PERSON OR BY COUNSEL IN HIS OWN DEFENSE, UPON NOT LESS THAN TEN DAYS' NOTICE. ANY PERSON REMOVED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBSECTION HAS THE RIGHT TO A REVIEW OF THE REMOVAL BY THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR GARRETT COUNTY [[IN A PROCEEDING DE NOVO]] WHICH SHALL DETERMINE, BASED UPON THE RECORD OF THE HEARING, WHETHER THE REMOVAL WAS SUPPORTED BY ANY SUBSTANTIAL EVIDENCE.

(F) THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GARRETT COUNTY SHALL FILL ANY VACANCY ON THE BOARD OF EDUCATION RESULTING FROM DEATH, RESIGNATION, FAILURE TO QUALIFY OR ANY OTHER REASON BY APPOINTING A QUALIFIED PERSON WHO SHALL SERVE FOR THE UNEXPIRED PORTION OF THE TERM OF THE VACANCY.